



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park of  
American Samoa

Pago Pago, AS 96799

Michael Larson  
Public Information Officer  
684 633-7082 ext 20 phone  
684 633-7083 fax

---

## National Park of American Samoa News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2016

### National Park Launches Youth Essay Contest

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—The National Park of American Samoa has launched a youth essay contest that invites local fifth through twelfth grade students to share their National Park of American Samoa story. Students are asked to answer the question: “What Does the National Park of American Samoa Mean to You?”

There will be fun prizes for first, second, and third place in both the elementary and high school categories. The top 10 writers will receive certificates of recognition. The top entries will also be featured in the National Park Visitor Center and on social media.

“Here at the National Park of American Samoa we have had great success with our school programs, going into schools to help teachers instill in students an understanding of the special cultural and natural resources here in American Samoa,” said Chief of Interpretation and Education Michael Larson. “This essay contest is another step in that process of working with schools to teach the next generation about what a special place this is and why it deserves protection.”

Students have until May 30, 2016 to submit an essay of no more than 500 words that answers “What Does the National Park of American Samoa Mean to You?”

Entries may be submitted by email at [npsa\\_info@nps.gov](mailto:npsa_info@nps.gov) or delivered to the National Park Visitor Center at the MHJ Building, 2nd Floor in Pago Pago—across from the Pago Way Service Station.

– continued –

These essays will help to commemorate the National Park Service's 100th birthday celebration in 2016.

For more information, contact the National Park of American Samoa at 633-7082, ext. 22 or email [npsa\\_info@nps.gov](mailto:npsa_info@nps.gov).

– NPS –